



1040 Harley-Davidson Way
Sturgis, SD 57785



March 13

News & Upcoming Events

Armchair Travelers Book Club: March 3 at noon in the Sturgis Library Lushbough Room.

Sturgis City Council: March 7 and 21 at 6:30pm at the Erskine Building.

Scrabble Lover's Unite: March 8 from 5:00pm until 6:00pm at the Library.

Planning and Zoning: March 8 at 5:30pm at City Hall.

Blood Drive - March 9, 2:30pm to 5:30pm. United Blood Services will have their bus at the Fire Hall. To make a reservation go to www.bloodhero.com (sponsor code: Sturgisambulance).

Sturgis Alliance of Churches Annual Potato Feed - March 14, 4:30pm until 6:30pm at the Community Center. Good will donations accepted.

Community Showcase - March 15 from 4:30pm until 6:30pm at the Sturgis Community Center. Learn about community non-profits and the services they provide.

History at High Noon - March 18 at noon in the Library.

City Council Candidate Forum - March 22 starting at 6:00pm in the Erskine Building Commission Chambers.

City Offices Closed - City offices including the Library and the Community Center will be closed on Friday, March 25 for Good Friday. Trash normally picked up on Friday will be collected on Thursday.



St. Patrick's Day
March 17



Happy Easter
March 27



Reminder - When shoveling your sidewalk and driveway, place the snow on your lawn instead of in the street. This will help your grass and shrubs receive extra moisture during the winter months. Additionally, City ordinance prohibits moving snow into the street.

Officials

Mayor

Mark Carstensen 490-1044

Council Members

Ward One:

Mike Bachand 490-1054

Rod Bradley 389-3209

Ward Two:

Tony Dargatz 490-3584

David Hersrud 347-5061

Ward Three:

Jason Anderson 490-1618

Ron Waterland 720-5010

Ward Four:

Steve Keszler 206-1500

Adam Martin 499-8549

City Manager

Daniel Ainslie 347-4422

Sturgis Information Publication



Volume 8, Issue 2
February, 2016

Our Mission: To provide an attractive, growing community being served by a professional staff that offers reliable, quality municipal services.

Marcotte Tract Now Officially Part of the City

On February 1, the Sturgis City Council officially annexed the 60 acre Marcotte property into the city limits of Sturgis. Located south of I-90 along Elk Road, the property was once owned by the SD Game Fish & Parks Department (GF&P) and was used as a public hunting area. In 2012, the State was considering selling the property at auction when the City entered into an agreement to purchase the property so future development could be controlled.

The \$620,000 purchase was paid off over a three year period. With the purchase now complete, the property has officially been added to the City of Sturgis corporate limits.

No specific plan has been approved for the development of the area; however, future plans will include large scale recreational areas.



City Considers Selling Sturgis Watershed to Game Fish & Parks

The City of Sturgis has taken the first step in opening a dialogue with the SD GF&P to sell the Sturgis Watershed area to the State.

At a recent City Council meeting, the City Council passed a resolution confirming their interest in the sale of the property to the state agency for use as a state park.

The watershed property, also known as the Davenport Dams, is located southeast of Sturgis and is bordered by U.S. Forest Service and private property. The property consists of over 700 acres of pristine wilderness and is home to several dams. The dams were originally used as the primary water source for Sturgis. The State eventually enacted stricter controls on public water systems and the dams were no longer used. Since then, the City's water is supplied through seven deep wells.

City and State officials began exploring the possibility of a property exchange in 2010, when the City began discussions to purchase the Marcotte property. A Volksmarch held in 2015 was the first public use of the property. Feedback from the public has been highly favorable to opening the area for public use. The City is working with several groups to enhance access to the area. The City's goal is to maintain the integrity of the area while enabling the public to enjoy this beautiful scenic area located in our backyard.

The next step in the lengthy process of selling the property to the GF&P is for an engineering study to be conducted by the State.

Community Center Renovations Continue

Improvements at the Sturgis Community Center are continuing into 2016 with updates scheduled for the pool and gymnasium areas.

- Scheduled improvements include:**
- Re-texturing of the pool walls and floor
 - New paint for the pool
 - New paint on the pool room ceiling
 - New flooring around the pool area to help prevent slipping and enhance cleanliness
 - New flooring in the gymnasium

These improvements are in addition to the new doors, windows, lighting, treadmills, elliptical machines, free weights and weight machines that were recently completed at the facility.

The construction work will require the pool and gymnasium to be closed for a period of time. Stay posted to the Community Center Facebook page for closure information and project updates.



At the Library in March

All month - 2016 Sturgis Area Arts Council Quilt Show. View a variety of exhibits on display by quilters from our community. Vote for your favorite piece.

March 3 at noon. The Armchair Travelers will meet to discuss books related to the 1960's Women's Rights Movement.

March 14 at 2:00pm - 2016 SAAC Quilt Show Reception & Program. Explore the World of Wool Applique presented by Cindy Townsend. Refreshments will be served.

March 14 from 3:30 to 4:30 - You are invited to come to the Library to learn about upcoming activities including building and programming Raspberry Pi computers.

March 18 at noon - History at High Noon. Representatives from the BLM will present "Fossil Finds in South Dakota".

March 25 & 26 - The Library will be closed for Good Friday and the Easter holiday.

View all the Library activities on our Facebook page.



February 26 - 5:00pm Deadline for petitions to be turned in at the Finance Office.

March 22 - Candidate Forum starting at 6:00pm in the Erskine Building Commission Chambers.

March 28 - Deadline for voter registration is 5:00pm. *Not sure of your status? Contact the Meade County Auditor's Office or visit the Voter Information Portal on the Secretary of State website.*

March 28 - Sample ballots become available at the City Finance Office. Absentee voting begins.

April 11 - 5:00pm Deadline for absentee voting.

April 12 - Election Day. Voting takes place at the Sturgis Community Center. Polls open at 7am and close at 7pm.



The Sturgis Code Enforcement Officer reminds campaign supporters that campaign signs are regulated within the city limits.

Here are the rules to follow when placing campaign signs:

- Campaign signs can only be placed on private property with the property owner's permission and can not be placed within city right of way, such as between sidewalks and streets or anywhere on city property.
- Signs can not exceed 32 square feet in size and must be removed within one week after the election. No campaigning of any sort (including signs) is allowed within 100 feet of a polling location. This is regulated by SD codified law 12-18-3 and is strictly enforced.

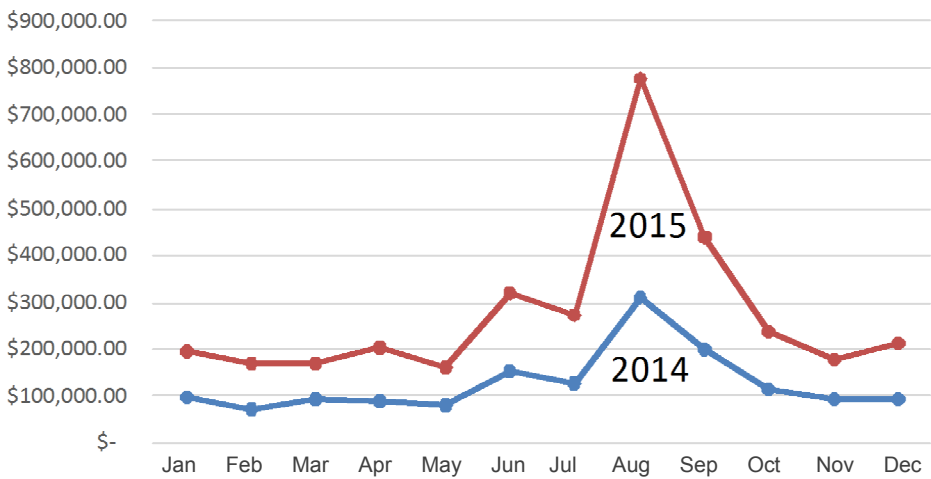
If signs are placed in violation of any one of the specifications listed here, they will be removed without notice by the Code Enforcement Officer. If weather conditions such as high winds dislodge the signs causing them to blow away, they will be collected with other debris and taken to the landfill.

2015 Fiscal Year Ends on a Good Note

General sales tax collections in 2015 were up significantly compared to 2014. The anniversary Rally in addition to increased retail and construction activity helped grow revenues to \$1,815,541 which is an 18.8% increase for the year. The Special BBB (tourism) tax in the amount of \$363,573 was also up 20.1% from the previous year. BBB tax is collected on seasonal tourism related purchases such as car rentals, lodging and entertainment.

2016 is not anticipated to be as lucrative; however, revenue is expected to remain strong with new housing and business activity on the rise.

General Sales Tax Collections



Third and fourth grade Girls Volleyball Registration is open until March 8. Practice begins March 14. Contact the Community Center at 347-6513 for more information.

Sturgis Alliance of Churches Annual Potato Feed

March 14, 4:30 until 6:30pm
Sturgis Community Center.



Goodwill donations accepted. Funds are used to help those in need in our community.

Spring is Coming!

Community Garden registration begins March 1 at the City Finance Office.

If you are a returning gardener and you did not clear your plot, you have until March 1 to clear the plot or forfeit your return status.

Rental on a 10 x 20 garden space is \$25.00. The fee helps cover the cost of water and insurance. Gardeners are responsible for providing their own seeds and/or starter plants.



Contact Information

City Hall 347-4422
City Attorney 347-4422
Code Enforcement and Inspections 347-4422

Finance Office 347-4422
Human Resources 347-4422
Rally Department 720-0800
1040 Harley-Davidson Way

Community Center 347-6513
5:00 - 8:00 Mon. - Fri.
8:00 - 5:00 Sat.
Noon - 5:00 Sun.
1401 Lazelle Street

Fire & Ambulance 347-5801
Emergency 911
7:00 - 5:00 Mon. - Fri.
1901 Ballpark Road

Library 347-2624
8:00 - 7:00 Mon. - Thur.
8:00 - 5:00 Fri.
8:00 - 4:00 Sat.
1040 Harley-Davidson Way

Liquor Store 347-5983
8:00 - 10:00 Mon. - Sat.
10:00 - 6:00 Sun.
1075 Lazelle Street

Parks Department 347-9018
8:00 - 5:00 Mon. - Fri.
1920 Ballpark Road
Shelter Reservations call 347-4422

Police Department 347-5070
Emergency 911
1400 Main Street

Public Works 347-3916
7:00 - 4:00 Mon. - Fri.
1057 Dudley Street
Rubble Site 347-5605
8:00 - 4:45 Mon. - Sat.
20492 Avalanch Road

Water Department 347-4422
8:00 - 5:00 Mon. - Fri.
1040 Harley-Davidson Way
After Hours Emergency call Police Dispatch 347-2573
Payment Drop Box:
1040 Harley-Davidson Way
We accept credit cards.